

country and track teams for four years and was named academic all-state. Her extensive list of school activities includes Spanish Club, National Honor Society, and S.A.D.D. Rosanna is also secretary of her graduating class.

As a Member of the United States Congress, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending the highest praise and congratulations to Rosanna May Leddy-Green for winning the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her accomplishments, but also is a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation have contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend the most heartfelt good wishes of the United States Congress for her success and for all her future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM McAVOY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise and pay tribute to journalist Tom McAvoy and thank him for his contributions to Colorado as the Denver Bureau Chief for The Pueblo Chieftain newspaper. The level of integrity and honesty that he has brought to this position throughout his twenty-one years of reporting on Colorado politics is truly exceptional and worthy of recognition by this body of Congress. As Tom moves on to his new position at The Pueblo Chieftain with the newspaper's editorial board, let it be known that the citizens of Pueblo and I are eternally grateful for the outstanding work Tom has done in covering the Colorado Legislature.

A Pueblo native, Tom received a degree in political science and mass communications from then Southern Colorado State College, and went on to receive his master's degree in journalism from Ohio State University. Before joining the Chieftain in 1977, Tom worked for the Associated Press's Denver bureau, taught journalism at Southern Colorado State College, and was Denver's information officer in Pueblo. Since Tom joined the Chieftain, he has built a solid reputation for his fair and thorough reporting on Colorado politics and other events occurring in Denver that affect Pueblo and Southern Colorado. The Colorado Press Association recognized his first-rate coverage, as he became the first recipient of their Shining Star award, which recognizes the most consistent reporter or writer over a year's span.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Tom McAvoy's dedication and hard work reporting on the Colorado Legislature has been an invaluable resource for the State of Colorado and is worthy of acknowledgment before this body of Congress and this nation today. I have personally known Tom for twenty years and can guarantee that his insight at the Capitol will be sorely missed. Thanks, Tom, for all your hard work, and I wish you and your wife, Sue, all the best with your new position at The Chieftain.

TRIBUTE TO TERI OOMS, PRESIDENT, INLAND EMPIRE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of the Inland Empire are exceptional. The Inland Empire has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Teri Ooms is one of these individuals.

In 1997 Teri Ooms was appointed the President/CEO of the Inland Empire Economic Partnership (IEEP) and of its sister companies. IEEP is responsible for the regional marketing, attraction and recruitment of new business to the region, the expansion and retention of existing business, film, tourism, high tech regional development, workforce collaborative, regional visioning and the Small Business Development Center.

Ms. Ooms joined the Inland Empire Economic Partnership in 1991 as the Executive Director of its Inland Empire Small Business Development Center. Under the excellent direction of Ms. Ooms, the Center grew to a staff of 21 with multiple regional locations, and its program has increased funding to \$1.1 million, making it the largest California program. The Center has created numerous special services and training programs, and can demonstrate economic impact of over \$300 million in its eleven year history.

As President/CEO, Ms. Ooms completed a reorganization of the company resulting in new programs and services, financial stability and increased prominence in the community. In the period of 1997–2003 IEEP has had 70 successful business attractions and retentions resulting in over \$730 million in new investment into the region creating over 9,500 jobs. The region has over 5,000 film shoots, demonstrating a little over \$425 million in regional impact in the same period. In 1999, she was awarded "Management Leader of the Year," by the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management, and in 1998, was a recipient of the "Women of Distinction" award given by the Business Press. Since 1997, IEEP's membership has grown by 10% and maintains an average membership retention ratio of 93%. EIEP has evolved to include a high technology development program and coordination of the region's workforce collaborative to bring education and business partnerships to benefit employers, employees and students and a regional collaborative focused on regional visioning, planning, advocacy and implementation.

Teri's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the economy of the Inland Empire in California. I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she retires.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY DISEASES AWARENESS WEEK

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the week of April 19 as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. Primary immune deficiency diseases are genetic disorders in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does not function properly. The World Health Organization recognizes more than 150 primary immune diseases which affect as many as 50,000 people in the United States. Fortunately, 70 percent of PIDD patients are able to maintain their health through regular infusions of a plasma product known as intravenous immunoglobulin. IGIV helps bolster the immune system and provides critical protection against infection and disease.

I am familiar with primary immune deficiencies because one of my constituents, Carol Ann Demaret, is the mother of a child born with severe combined immunodeficiency. Her son David struggled with this terrible disease his entire life before passing away at the age of 12. Because the disease left David without a functioning immune system he became known as the "bubble boy" due to his confinement in an insulating bubble that protected him from infection.

Since David's death, Carol Ann has become a tireless advocate for the primary immune deficiency community. She has testified before Congress in support of increased federal funding for biomedical research focused on these devastating diseases. Carol Ann is also a longstanding member of the Board of Trustees of the Immune Deficiency Foundation, which is the nation's leading organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for PIDD patients. Recently, the Foundation entered into an historic research partnership with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health. The establishment of the "US Immunodeficiency Network" represents the most significant advancement in primary immune deficiency research in our nation's history. I was pleased to work with the Carol Ann, the Foundation, and my colleagues in the House to make this research consortium a reality.

Despite the recent progress in PIDD research, the average length of time between the onset of symptoms in a patient and a definitive diagnosis of PIDD is 9.2 years. In the interim, those afflicted may suffer repeated and serious infections and possibly irreversible damage to internal organs. That is why it is critical that we raise awareness about these illnesses within the general public and the health care community.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Immune Deficiency Foundation for its leadership in this area and I am proud to join them in recognizing the week of April 19 as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. I encourage my colleagues to work with us to help improve the quality of life for PIDD patients and their families.